

REMARKSRestriction Requirement:

Applicants elect Group 1, claims 2-34, to be examined at this time. Accordingly, claims 36-38 have been withdrawn.

The Office Action require restriction to a single species of angiogenic factors. Applicants elect vascular endothelial growth factor, claims 4 and 5, to be examined at this time. Accordingly, claims 6 and 7 have been withdrawn. If restriction is further required to a single subspecies of vascular endothelial growth factor, Applicants provisionally elect VEGF. The claimed species each have, to different degrees, vascular endothelial growth factor activity and bind to the related vascular endothelial growth factor receptors. VEGF, VEGF₁₂₁, VEGF₁₄₅, VEGF₁₆₅, VEGF₁₈₉ and VEGF₂₀₆ are splicing variants of the VEGF mRNA. VEGF-E is the collective term for a group of proteins having significant homology to VEGF that are encoded by certain strains of the *orf* virus. VEGF-C contains ~30% amino acid identity to VEGF165 and is even more closely related to VEGF-D. It is the Applicants' opinion that the species listed in claim 5 are therefore obvious variants of one another.

The Office Action requires restriction to a single species of muscle tissue. Applicant elect limb skeletal muscle tissue, reflected in claims 22-24 and 9, to be examined at this time. Accordingly, claims 8 and 19-21 have been withdrawn.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Kirk Ekena, Reg. No. 56,672
Mirus Bio Corporation
505 South Rosa Road
Madison, WI 53719
608-238-4400

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Kirk Ekena